

Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4962

S E C R E T PRETORIA 3215

NODIS CHEROKEE

ALSO FOR ASST SECY SCHAUFEELE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PFOR ZA SF

SUBJ: SECURITY COUNCIL: ZAMBIAN COMPLAINT

REF: (A) USUN 2959, (B) PRETORIA 3086

1. WHEN I SAW BRAND FOURIE LAST WEEK (REFTEL B), I INDIRECTLY INQUIRED WHETHER SAG WAS IN TOUCH WITH GOZ TO DISCUSS ALLEGED INCIDENT AT SHESHEKE AND THEREBY LIMIT POTENTIAL DAMAGE TO SOUTH AFRICAN-ZAMBIAN RELATIONS WHICH COULD HAVE ADVERSE EFFECT ON CURRENT INITIATIVES. FOURIE DID NOT TAKE UP THIS OPENING.

2. I UNDERSTAND THAT WHEN PORTUGUESE WERE ENGAGED IN ANTI-GUERRILLA ACTIVITY IN ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE THEIR FORCES OCCASIONALLY MADE INCURSIONS INTO ZAMBIAN TERRITORY. GOP QUICKLY FOLLOWED THESE UP WITH APOLOGIES AND OFFERS OF COMPENSATION WHICH MOLIFIED GOZ AND LIMITED DAMAGE TO RELATIONS.

3. I WOULD THINK THAT WITH GOOD RELATIONSHIP BUILT UP OVER PAST YEAR BETWEEN KAUNDA AND FOSTER, SOUTH AFRICANS WOULD HAVE QUICKLY APPROACHED ZAMBIANS AFTER SHESHEKE TO CLARIFY MATTERS AND TO MAKE AMENDS IF SAG FORCES WERE INDEED INVOLVED. MY INDIRECT QUESTION TO FOURIE WAS DESIGNED TO ELICIT THIS INFORMATION OR SUGGEST DESIREABILITY OF SAG

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TAKING SUCH AN INITIATIVE.

4. IN FACE OF APPARENT GOZ DETERMINATION TO PRESS FOR UNSC
CONSIDERATION OF ALLEGED SAG INCURSION (REFTEL A), I
THINK IT MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR ME TO SEE PM VORSTER TO
INQUIRE WHETHER SAG HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH GOZ ON
INCIDENT AND WHAT STEPS SAG MIGHT HAVE TAKEN OR COULD
TAKE TO PERSUADE GOZ NOT TO PUSH UNSC CASE. I THINK
THIS COULD BE DONE IN FRIENDLY WAY WITHOUT ANTAGONIZING PM.
ADVISE.
BOWDLER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COUNTERINSURGENCY, FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, BORDER INCIDENTS, INVASIONS, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, CAT-C, CHEROKEE 07/21/76
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchant0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976PRETOR03215
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLELE
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Film Number: P840109-2284
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760737/aaaabfvs.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 76 USUN NEW YORK 2959, 76 PRETORIA 3086
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAY 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <15 OCT 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECURITY COUNCIL: ZAMBIAN COMPLAINT
TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, ZA, SF, US, UNSC, (VORSTER, BALTHAZAR JOHANNES), (FOURIE, BRAND)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006